

REMARKS

With entry of this amendment, claims 66-87, all of which have been newly added, are pending in this application. Claims 54-65 have been cancelled from this application. Based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 66-72, 77-83

It is believed that newly added claims 66-72 and 77-83 are supported by the specification, as originally filed, and are patentable over the prior art of record. Notably, independent claims 66 and 77 require that the image be annotated with a designator that identifies and marks an electrode. Although the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,490,474 to Willis (“Willis”) should not be so limited, it does not specifically disclose this feature. Instead, Willis discloses that the positions of lesions and anatomical landmarks may be added or deleted from the display (col. 18, lines 47-51) and that electrical activation times can be represented in an isochronal map as colors (col. 20, lines 28-40). Thus, Willis does not specifically disclose that the image can be annotated with designators that identify and mark electrodes.

Claims 73 and 84

It is believed that newly added claims 66-72 and 77-83 are supported by the specification, as originally filed, and are patentable over the prior art of record. Notably, claims 73 and 84 additionally require that the designator identify and mark an electrode in response to the entry of a coordinate of the electrode by the user. In addition to not disclosing the above-described annotation feature, Willis does not disclose that the electrode for which a user has entered a coordinate can be

identified and marked with a designator. Although Willis discloses determining the coordinates of the electrodes for subsequent display, the ability to identify and mark an electrode simply by entering in its coordinates provides an advantage that cannot be ignored. For example, the preferred system of the instant application draws a flashing circle around an electrode for which the user has entered a coordinate. (see page 54, lines 25-32). With knowledge of the particular electrode that is adjacent a site of interest, this feature allows the physician to quickly find this site on the image.

Claims 74-76 and 85-87

It is believed that newly added claims 74-76 and 85-87 are supported by the specification, as originally filed; and are patentable over the prior art of record. Notably, independent claims 74 and 85 additionally require that the designator identify and mark an electrode as having a specific function. In addition to not disclosing the basic annotation feature, Willis does not disclose that a designator can be used to identify an electrode as having a specific function, e.g., pacing or recording.

PATENT
24729-7095
(270/271)
Serial No. 10/039,415

Conclusion

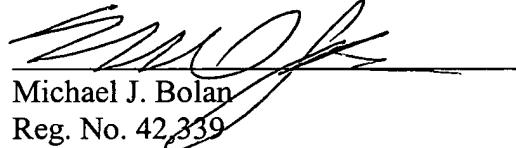
Based on the foregoing, all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (949) 725-0089 or (213) 680-6400.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 4/2/03

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